

# ***POWERFUL CLASSROOM PRACTICES THAT AFFECT ASSESSMENT RESULTS***



**AzMERIT**

Arizona's Statewide Achievement Assessment  
for English Language Arts and Mathematics

# ***Powerful Classroom Practices that Affect Assessment Results***

Academic Vocabulary: *Strategies for creating multidisciplinary lessons that will boost student achievement*

Instructional Strategies: *Emphasize evidence-based best practices*

Testing Tip and Tools: *Practices across the curriculum for best impact and results*

Activity: Hmmm and Ha by Jonathan Gibson



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# What the DATA?

## AzMERIT

- Snapshot of student performance
- Higher proficiency expectations
  - Tied to Arizona's 2016 ELA and Math Standards
  - Similar to expectation on other assessments
- Results are focused on student proficiency

## Formative/ Benchmark

- Full picture of student performance
- Graduated proficiency expectations
  - Tied to Arizona's 2016 ELA and Math Standards
- Results are focused on student growth and guide instruction

# Academic Vocabulary



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## Arizona English Language Arts Standards

### Reading Standards for Literature

#### Key Ideas and Details

9-10.RL.1– Cite strong and thorough textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly as well as inferences drawn from the text.

9-10.RL.2– Determine a theme or central idea of a text and analyze in detail its development over the course of the text, including how it emerges and is shaped and refined by specific details; provide an objective summary of the text.

9-10.RL.3– Analyze how complex characters (e.g., those with multiple or conflicting motivations) develop over the course of a text, interact with other characters, and advance the plot or develop the theme.

#### Craft and Structure

9-10.RL.4– Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and connotative meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices on meaning and tone.

9-10.RL.5– Analyze how an author's choices concerning how to structure a text, order events within it, and manipulate time create such effects as mystery, tension, or surprise.

9-10.RL.6– Analyze how points of view and/or cultural experiences are reflected in works of literature, drawing from a variety of literary texts.

9-10.RL.4:Determine the meaning of words and phrases as they are used in the text, including figurative and **connotative meanings**; analyze the cumulative impact of specific **word choices** on meaning and **tone**.

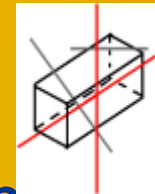
In Passage 1, when Apollo speaks to Cupid, what **tone** does his **word choice** convey?

- ☒ arrogance
- ☐ (B) curiosity
- ☐ (C) pity
- ☐ (D) thoughtfulness

## Arizona Math Standards 7.G.A.3

Describe the **two-dimensional figures** that result from **slicing three-dimensional figures**.

### GEOMETRY




Content Emphasis: (supporting content)

**Draw, construct, and describe** geometrical figures and describe the **relationships** between them








7.G.A.3: Identify two dimensional shapes formed by the intersection of a plane and prism or pyramid.

A square pyramid is shown.



The pyramid can be sliced horizontally or vertically.

Select all of the shapes that could represent the cross section of the pyramid.

- ☒ 
- ☐ 
- ☒ 
- ☒ 
- ☐ 



# Item Specifications

A1.A-REI.D.10

<b>Content Standards</b>	Understand that the graph of an equation in two variables is the set of all its solutions plotted in the coordinate plane, often forming a curve, which could be a line.
<b>Explanations</b>	Represent and solve equations and inequalities graphically.
<b>Content Limits</b>	This standard is aligned to Algebra I only. Linear and exponential equations
<b>Context</b>	Context is allowed.

Sample Task Demands	Common Item Formats
Students will be required to identify coordinates of points that lie on the graph of a given equation.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Equation Response</li> <li>Graphic Response</li> <li>Multiple Choice Response</li> <li>Multi-Select Response</li> </ul>
Students will be required to plot points that are solutions to a given equation.	
Students will be required to identify other possible solutions to a given equation, type of equation, and/or the graph of a solution to the equation.	

Performance Level Descriptors	
Minimally Proficient	Partially Proficient
Identify the graph of an equation in two variables.	Identify a solution given the graph of an equation in two variables.
Proficient	Highly Proficient
Understand that the graph of an equation in two variables is the set of all its solutions plotted in the coordinate plane, often forming a curve, which could be a line.	Explain that the graph of an equation in two variables is the set of all its solutions plotted in the coordinate plane, often forming a curve, which could be a line.



Activity – Use Item Specifications to create an ELA or Math Item.

1: Identify **Academic Vocabulary** within the Standard

2: Create item using **Academic Vocabulary**

3: Clone additional Item Type

4: SHARE

Multiple Choice	Multi-Select
Hot Text/ Grid	Open Response/ Equation Editor

# AzMERIT Resources

[Tweet](#) [Share](#)

## ELA and Math Resources

- ▶ AzMERIT Writing Guides and Rubrics
- ▶ Writing Resources
- ▶ Reading Resources
- ▶ Math Resources

## AzMERIT Resources

- ▶ AzMERIT Blueprints and Cut Scores
- ▶ AzMERIT Sample Tests
- ▶ Item Specifications
- ▶ Performance Level Descriptors

<http://www.azed.gov/assessment/resources/>

### Item Specifications

**NEW**

These Item Specifications are aligned to the 2016 English Language Arts Standards and Mathematics Standards.

#### ELA Specs

- [ELA Grade 3](#)
- [ELA Grade 4](#)
- [ELA Grade 5](#)
- [ELA Grade 6](#)
- [ELA Grade 7](#)
- [ELA Grade 8](#)
- [ELA Grade 9-10](#)
- [ELA Grade 11](#)
- [ELA All Grades](#)

#### Math Specs

- [Math Grade 3](#)
- [Math Grade 4](#)
- [Math Grade 5](#)
- [Math Grade 6](#)
- [Math Grade 7](#)
- [Math Grade 8](#)
- [Algebra I](#)
- [Geometry](#)
- [Algebra II](#)
- [ALEOD](#)

# Instructional Strategies



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## Classroom Practices

Highlighting Key Information

Using Storyboards/Organizers

Citing Sources

Building Procedural Fluency from Conceptual Understanding

Posing Purposeful Questions

Using Tools Strategically

## AzMERIT Highlighting

### Source 3: Keep Students Focused on Schoolwork

by Luz Chavez

sounds like a good idea at first. Students learn how to be responsible. They practice working in groups. They keep the school looking great. However, there are many reasons these jobs should be left to adults.

- 10 Students lead busy lives. They have classwork, homework, after-school activities, and chores at home. Many parents are already concerned that their children have too much homework. Teachers often worry about having enough classroom time to teach and prepare students. Many

*AzMERIT Sample Test Grade 4*

Storyboard for Argumentative Writing

My Thesis

E  
v  
i  
d  
e  
n  
c  
e

Points

Counterpoints

Rebuttal

Conclusion



Storyboard for Argumentative Writing

Students contributing to schools is beneficial

Evidence

Benefits of contributing

Points

Orange - Responsible, work in groups, school clean

Counterpoints

Purple - Classwork, homework, chores, after-school activities

Rebuttal

Conclusion





**Informative/Explanatory**

Purpose, Focus, and  
Organization

Evidence and Elaboration

Conventions

**Total Points:**

**4**

**4**

**2**

**Opinion/Argumentative**

Purpose, Focus, and  
Organization

Evidence and Elaboration

Conventions



Things to Remember:

While students are encouraged to quote or paraphrase from the text, they must elaborate with their own original thoughts and ideas.

To be scored, a student response must include at least 30% original text.

	Gr 3	Gr 4	Gr 5	Gr 6	Gr 7	Gr 8	Gr 9	Gr 10	Gr 11
Prompt Copy Match	11%	6%	6%	6%	6%	4%	4%	3%	2%



## Integrating Evidence

Quoting

Paraphrasing

Summarizing\*

Natural Evidence

### Quoting

Use a direct quote from the original source.

Example:

According to the article, "Your helmet should have a sticker that says it meets standards set by the Consumer Product Safety Commission" (Dowshen, 2014).



## Integrating Evidence

Quoting

Paraphrasing

Summarizing\*

Natural Evidence

### Paraphrasing

Rephrase the quote in your own words.

Example:

The KidsHealth article states that you should look for a helmet with a sticker from the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC).



## Integrating Evidence

Quoting

Paraphrasing

Summarizing\*

Natural Evidence

### Summarizing\*

Using only the main points of the source in your own words.

Example:

The KidsHealth article discusses why bike safety is important, how to use a bike helmet, where to ride, road rules, and using hand signals.



## Integrating Evidence

Quoting

Paraphrasing

Summarizing\*

Natural Evidence

### Natural Evidence Integration

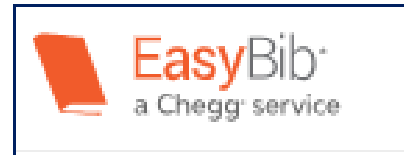
Taking phrases from the source and use them in your argument.

Example:

Wearing a bike helmet is so important that the government created stickers for those helmets that meet "standards set by the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC)."



# Citation Engines



APA MLA Chicago More +

Book Magazine Newspaper Website Journal Film Other

**NEW** Make sure your paper is error-free!

Good job citing! Now get peace of mind. Scan your paper for grammar mistakes and catch unintentional plagiarism.

Try it now!

Auto-fill mode Manual entry mode Cite a chapter

Find a book by title, author, or ISBN

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**Mathematical Fluency** — applying mathematics accurately, efficiently, and flexibly (CCSSI, 2009).

- Provide students with opportunities to use flexible strategies and methods for solving problems.
- Model efficient procedures as needed.
- Connect student-generated strategies with efficient procedures.
- Practice should be brief, engaging, purposeful, and distributed.



# Highlighting

16



A survey of 525 people was conducted to determine whether they have brothers and sisters.

- The results showed that 24% of the people surveyed do not have a sister and 68% of the people surveyed have a brother.
- The results also showed that 93 of the people surveyed do not have a sister and do not have a brother.

Complete the two-way frequency table to show the results of the survey.

	Have a Brother	Do Not Have a Brother	Total
Have a Sister	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Do Not Have a Sister	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Total	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	525

Speak Passage

Speak Selection

Highlight Selection ▶

Yellow

Orange

Green

Purple

*AzMERIT Sample Test Algebra I*

Problem Solving	
<b>Problem:</b>	
<i><u>Underline</u> key words.</i>	
<i>Put a box around the question.</i>	
<b>Decide on a strategy. Show your work.</b>	<b>Check and label your work</b>



Problem Solving	
<p><b>Problem:</b> <u>Five children</u> are playing on the playground. The teacher called the children in for a snack. She had <u>20 cookies</u>. <span>How many cookies did each child get?</span></p>	
<p><u>Underline</u> key words.</p>	<p>Put a box around the question.</p>
<p><b>Decide on a strategy. Show your work.</b></p> <p>Draw a picture:</p> <p>XXXX   XXXX   XXXX   XXXX   XXXX</p>	<p><b>Check and label your work</b></p> <p><math>20/5 = 4</math></p> <p>Each child got 4 cookies.</p>



# PBS Teacherline Tips for Developing Mathematical Thinking

- To promote problem solving
- To make connections
- To encourage reflection
- To check progress
- To encourage conjecture
- To build confidence

### Developing Mathematical Thinking with Effective Questions

**To promote problem solving, ask...**

- What information do you have? What do you need to find out?
- What strategies are you going to use?
- Will you do it mentally? With pencil and paper? Using a number line?
- What tools will you need? Will a calculator help?
- What do you think the answer or result will be?

**To promote problem solving, ask...**

- How would you describe the problem in your own words?
- What have you tried?
- What do you know that is not stated in the problem?
- How did you tackle similar problems?
- Could you try it with simpler numbers? Fewer numbers? Using a number line? What about putting things in order?
- Would it help to create a diagram? Make a table? Draw a picture?
- Can you guess and check?
- If you compared your work with anyone else's, what did they try?

**To make connections among ideas and applications, ask...**

- How does this relate to...?
- What ideas that we have learned were useful in solving this problem?
- What area of mathematics did you find in the new paper last night?
- Can you give me an example of...?

**To encourage reflection, ask...**

- How did you get your answer?
- Does your answer seem reasonable? Why or why not?
- Can you describe your method to me? Can you explain why it works?
- What if you had started with... rather than...?
- What if you could only use...?
- What have you learned or found out today?
- Did you use or learn any new words today? What did they mean?
- What are the key points or big ideas in this lesson?

Do you want to develop additional mathematical thinking strategies for your teaching practice?

Visit [www.pbs.org/teacherline](http://www.pbs.org/teacherline) to view our Mathematics professional development options.

### Developing Mathematical Thinking with Effective Questions

**To help students build confidence and rely on their own understanding, ask...**

- Why is that true? How did you reach that conclusion?
- Does that make sense?
- Can you make a model to show that?

**To help students learn to reason mathematically, ask...**

- Is that true for all cases? Explain.
- Can you think of a counterexample?
- How would you prove that?
- What assumptions are you making?

**To check student progress, ask...**

- Can you explain what you have done so far? What else is there to do?
- Why did you decide to use this method?
- Can you think of another method that might have worked?
- Is there a more efficient strategy?
- What do you notice when...?
- Why did you decide to organize your results like that?
- Do you think this would work with other numbers?
- Have you thought of all the possibilities? How can you be sure?


**To help students collectively make sense of mathematics, ask...**


- What do you think about what \_\_\_\_\_ said?
- Do you agree? Why or why not?
- Does anyone have the same answer but a different way to explain it?
- Do you understand what \_\_\_\_\_ is saying?
- Can you convince the rest of us that your answer makes sense?

**To encourage conjecturing, ask...**

- What would happen if...? What if not?
- Do you see a pattern? Can you explain the pattern?
- Can you predict the next one? What about the last one?
- What decision do you think he/she should make?

The contents of this card were developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. However, the content does not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the federal government.

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FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING  
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## Activity

### Pair –Share Strategies

- Pre and Post Test Strategy
- Vocab Strategy
- Highlighting important details or information
- Writing Plan and using Text- based evidence

# Testing Tips and Tools



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Grid-In Response Items for PBT

1     1 / 2						
	/	/	•	/	/	
•	•	•	•	•	•	•
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
•	1	•	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	•	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9	9	9

3 / 2						
	•	/	/	/	/	
•	•	•	•	•	•	•
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	•	2	2	2	2
•	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5	5	5	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9	9	9

1 . 5						
	/	/	/	/	/	
•	•	•	•	•	•	•
0	0	0	0	0	0	0
•	1	1	1	1	1	1
2	2	2	2	2	2	2
3	3	3	3	3	3	3
4	4	4	4	4	4	4
5	5	•	5	5	5	5
6	6	6	6	6	6	6
7	7	7	7	7	7	7
8	8	8	8	8	8	8
9	9	9	9	9	9	9

Any correct response is accepted

Issues:

- Not putting a space between whole numbers and fractions
- Filling in two circles in the same column
- Not filling in the circles



## Your Tests

Student Grade Level:

### ELA



[Start Sample G8 ELA Writing](#)



[Start Sample G8 ELA Reading](#)

### Math



[Start Sample G8 Math](#)

### Tools



[Start G8 Equation Editor](#)



[Start Writing Sandbox](#)



Sample Test Site

[Back to Login](#)



# Using Tools Strategically

1

The following question has two parts. First, answer part A. Then, answer part B.

**Strikethrough**

Part A

What is a central idea of Passage 1?

☒ The Marine Band is famous because of its nickname.

☐ ~~The Marine Band is the most popular band in the United States.~~

☐ The Marine Band is a notable part of American musical history.

☐ ~~The Marine Band plays for major events throughout the country.~~

Context Menus

Tutorial

Mark for Review

Notepad

Speak Option

Speak Question

Highlight Selection

Strikethrough

Calculator

Calculators

Calculator

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 + - \* / % ^ 1/x sqrt

System Settings

TTS Settings

Volume

Pitch

Rate

Ok Cancel

# AzMERIT Tools

Large Mouse Pointers for Low Vision Users

Notepad

Notepad

Save Save and Close

Line Reader

1 In 1798, John Adams signed an act of Congress that created the United States Marine Band. The band began as only drums and fifes (an instrument like a flute). Today, the band is a full orchestra with some of the best musicians in



1



Use the Equation Editor below to practice creating equations and expressions.

←

→

↶

↷

✖

1	2	3	x	y					
4	5	6	+	-	•	÷			
7	8	9	<	≤	=	≥	>		
	0		$\square^{\square}$	$\square_{\square}$	()		$\sqrt{\square}$	$\sqrt[n]{\square}$	$\pi$
.	-	$\frac{\square}{\square}$							



# Sandbox

1

Type your answer in the space provided. To print your response, click the printer icon on the side of the toolbar just above the answer space.



# Words 0/4000, # Chars 0/20000

ELA

Start Sample G4 ELA Writing

Start Sample G4 ELA Reading

Math

Start Sample G4 Math

Tools

Start G4 Equation Editor

Start Writing Sandbox



<b>Grade</b>	<b>ELA Average Time</b> Hours : Minutes 3 test sessions	<b>Math Average Time</b> Hours : Minutes 2 test sessions
3	3:48	1:44
4	3:44	1:46
5	4:04	1:56
6	4:03	1:59
7	3:45	2:00
8	3:26	1:55
9/Algebra I	2:40	1:42
10/Geometry	2:35	1:36
11/Algebra II	2:22	1:28

## Contact Us!

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